

Macomb Community Action Advisory Board
Executive Committee Meeting
September 8, 2009

The Macomb Community Action Advisory Board Executive Committee met on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 in the VerKuijen Building, MI Works! Conference Room-Suite 11, 21885 Dunham Rd., Clinton Township, MI.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mary George
Norman Bordo
Jessica Cheshire
John Bierbusse

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Denise Amenta
Eudora McKinney
Commissioner Torrice

STAFF PRESENT:

Frank Taylor
Mary Solomon
Holly Ehrke

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair George at 11:53 a.m.

2. Determination of a Quorum

It was determined that a quorum was established with 4 members present.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Norman Bordo, supported by Jessica Cheshire, made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment

Chair George stated that this committee operates under the Open Meetings Act and asked if anyone was present who wished to address the Committee. There being no one present requesting this privilege, Chair George proceeded with the meeting.

5. Approval of July 21, 2009 Minutes

Norman Bordo, supported by John Bierbusse, made a motion to approve the July 21, 2009 minutes. Motion carried.

6. Recommendation to approve the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Plan

Ms. Solomon presented the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Plan. She stated:

- Period of Performance: April 10, 2009 through September 30, 2010
- Funding Amount: \$1,375,289 with no County match required
- Funding Utilization: Administration \$22,204 and Direct Program \$1,353,085
- Customer Eligibility Requirement: Annual Income is at or below 200% of the poverty level or 60% of State Median Income

Discussion followed.

John Bierbusse, supported by Jessica Cheshire, made a motion to approve the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Plan. Motion carried.

7. Recommendation to approve the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Plan

Ms. Solomon presented the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Plan. She stated:

- Period of Performance: October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010
- Funding Amount: \$878,851 with no County match required
- Funding Utilization: Administration \$104,042, Training and Technical Assistance \$10,000, and Direct Program \$764,809
- Customer Eligibility Requirement: Annual Income is at or below 200% of the poverty level or 60% of State Median Income

Discussion followed.

John Bierbusse, supported by Jessica Cheshire, made a motion to approve the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Plan. Motion carried.

8. Recommendation to receive funding from the Michigan Community Action Agency Association to support the Michigan Enrolls Program

Ms. Solomon presented the Michigan Community Action Agency Association to support the Michigan Enrolls Program. She stated:

- Period of Performance: Contract extension - May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2011
- Contract amount: \$80,496 with no County match required
- Number of units to be served: 2,706

Norman Bordo, supported by John Bierbusse, made a motion to receive funding from the Michigan Community Action Agency Association to support the Michigan Enrolls Program. Motion carried.

9. Recommendation to receive Low Income Energy Assistance Program funds.

Ms. Solomon presented the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds. She stated:

- Period of Performance: May 24, 2009 to September 30, 2010
- Funding amount: \$369,000
- Funding Utilization: Installing energy savings measures – combustion appliance testing, insulation/ventilation, caulking and window repair. Additional measures may include furnace repair/replacement and roof repair/replacement.

Discussion followed.

John Bierbusse, supported by Jessica Cheshire, made a motion to receive the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds. Motion carried.

10. Recommendation to receive LIHEAP Deliverable Fuels funds

Ms. Solomon presented the LIHEAP Deliverable Fuels funds report. She stated:

- Period of Performance: February 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010
- Funding Amount: \$34,582
- Funding Utilization: Allowable services are limited to non-metered heating fuel assistance such as: propane, fuel oil, coal, wood, kerosene, and heating fuel pellets.

Discussion followed.

John Bierbusse, supported by Jessica Cheshire, made a motion to receive the LIHEAP Deliverable Fuels funds. Motion carried.

11. Recommendation to receive Senior Nutrition American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds in program year 2010

Ms. Solomon presented the Senior Nutrition American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds in program year 2010. She stated:

- Period of Performance: October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010
- Funding Amount: \$191,877 (Congregate - \$128,584 and Home Delivered Meals - \$63,000)
- Funding Utilization: The funding available will provide senior citizens ages 60 and older meet their nutritional and social needs through offering mid day meals at 24 Dining Senior Style sites and offering frail

homebound individuals hot meals through Meals on Wheels. Over 1,100 volunteers participate in the Meals on Wheels program.

Mr. Taylor presented information from Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan Advocacy Alert Newsletter. The letter discussed potential cuts to balance the State's budget. The proposed cuts may cut 90% of state funding for home-delivered meals and in-home services. These cuts would affect federal funding to the state because of match requirements.

Jessica Cheshire, supported by John Bierbusse, made a motion to receive the Senior Nutrition American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds in program year 2010. Motion carried.

12. Information Items

- Update on Individual Development Account Program

Ms. Solomon presented an update on the Individual Development Account Program. She stated:

- Period of Performance: December 1, 2008 through November 30, 2012
- Funding Amount: \$26,250 with no County match required
- Funding Utilization: Families enrolled in the program make monthly contributions toward a savings account for up to two (2) years. When a customer sets aside their funds in a savings account, their contributions are matched at a 3:1 ratio utilizing the grant funds. The combined savings account is used for the down payment and closing costs on the purchase of their first home in Macomb County.

- Update on the Emergency Food and Assistance Program (TEFAP)

Ms. Solomon presented an update on the Emergency Food and Assistance Program (TEFAP) ARRA funds. She stated:

- Period of Performance: October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009
- Funding Amount: \$35,934 with no County match required
- Funding Utilization: Funds will be utilized for capital improvement (new walk-in freezer to increase our capacity to store and distribute frozen food products.)

- Update on FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds

Ms. Solomon presented an update on the FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds. She stated:

- Period of Performance: August 3, 2009 through December 31, 2009
- Funding Amount: \$166,909 (ARRA funds) (No County match required)
- Funding Utilization: In a partnership with Michigan Works!, staff from those centers will distribute food cards to approved newly unemployed individuals. \$100 cards will be given to an individual whose family size is

four (4) or lower and \$200 will be given to an individual whose family size is 5 or greater.

- Status Report on County budget reduction

Mr. Taylor reported on the status of the County budget reduction. He stated per the letter from John Foster, Assistant Finance Director, the County is requesting MCCSA to reduce its budget by \$57,188 FY 2010 and 2011.

- Update on Community Action Agencies regional marketing effort

Mr. Taylor reported on the Community Action Agencies regional marketing effort. He stated: Oakland County, Macomb County, Wayne County, Detroit, Washtenaw County and Monroe County are collaborating in an effort to market Community Action Agencies. Each area will contribute \$13,000 for the pilot program. There will be advertising on billboards and radio advertisements to promote the Weatherization Program. A 1-800 call center will be developed. The regional marketing effort will be launched at the end of September or beginning of October. Mr. Taylor stated at the end of the project outcome measures will be presented.

- Discuss October 2009 MCAAB Election of Officers process

Mr. Bierbusse was asked to chair the MCAAB Election Committee. Nominations will be taken at the October Full Board Meeting.

- Discuss plans for upcoming December Board meeting (location, informal recognition ceremony, other)

Mr. Taylor stated the December Full Board Meeting will be held at Zucarro's. Zucarro's provided the lowest bid for the December Meeting. Julie Kavanagh will be sending out nomination forms for the recognition ceremony.

13. Emerging Issues

Mr. Bordo suggested that Board members set a goal for the Board. A suggestion was made that the Board members can lobby for changes that affect low-income people, where staff of MCCSA cannot lobby elected officials.

14. Other Business

Mr. Taylor reported:

- The Annual Joint Meeting of MCAAB and Head Start Policy Council will be held October 16th at the MISD. More information will follow.
- Implementation of the Weatherization ARRA funding will begin as soon as the State has approved the RFQ. Review of contractors will begin by

mid-October or the beginning of November. Commissioner Sprys and staff will evaluate the contractor's applications.

- A client is going through the appeal process on her home that was weatherized by the Weatherization Department. She has received a denial letter from MCCSA stating that the weatherization of her home did not cause the current damage to her home. The next step is to appeal to the MCAAB Executive Committee, which she has done.
 - Dates for the Special Executive Meeting will be emailed to the Committee members.
 - Joe Cooke and Steve Schuster will be available to answer questions at the meeting.
 - Mary Solomon will mail the response of the Committee to the client.

15. Schedule Next Meeting – Full Board - October 20, 2009

Health Department

- Executive Committee - November 10, 2009

MI Works Conference Room

16. Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Holly Ehrke,
Secretary